



September 2007 Newsletter

AFTERSCHOOL TRANSFORMATION CONFERENCE: RESULTS FOR KIDS THROUGH HIGH QUALITY PROGRAMS

This Conference will provide the opportunity to learn about the latest in afterschool curriculum and activities, relationship-building, program administration, health and wellness, and more! The Conference will be held September 28-29, 2007 in Des Moines.

Register Today! Keynote Speaker: Don Broshar, Extension Youth & Community Development Specialist, Iowa State University 4-H Extension

To register for the Conference, click [here](#). ISACA members receive a registration discount.

[Agenda](#) now available online.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - LIGHTS ON! AFTERSCHOOL IS COMING OCTOBER 18TH, 2007! PLAN AN EVENT TODAY!

Lights On! Afterschool, the nation's celebration of afterschool programs, attracts 1 million Americans to 7,500 events at afterschool programs across the country. Your participation helps demonstrate the importance of your work, and of afterschool programs nationwide. Help call attention to the need for afterschool resources and join us in celebrating!

AS OF SEPTEMBER 12TH: NINE IOWA AFTERSCHOOL LIGHTS ON! ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN REGISTERED ON THE NATIONAL WEBSITE.

Sign up today and highlight your Iowa program nationally!

Loras Osterhaus from Clinton Community Schools shared the success of their Lights On! Afterschool event during a September 12th conference call with other programs who are interested in hosting Lights On! Afterschool events. Mr. Osterhaus spoke about the ways his team has incorporated media, policy makers, local celebrities, and entertainment into the Clinton Lights On! Afterschool event in 2006. Other afterschool programs benefited from Mr. Osterhaus' discussion and hope to incorporate aspects of this successful Lights On! Afterschool event into their own communities.

LIGHTS ON! TIPS FOR YOUR OWN EVENT:

Get a team together and talk about the goal of your event. See an online event checklist at www.afterschoolalliance.org for a list of brainstorming questions and a to-do list for every week leading up to October 18.



The Iowa Afterschool Alliance (IAA) Newsletter is a monthly venue of information and updates on afterschool programs and policies. For more information, please contact Brooke Findley at bfindley@sppg.com or 515-243-2000.

Too overwhelmed to plan an event? No need to do it alone! Call your partners or look up 2006 events and plan a joint event.

For more tips on hosting your own Lights On! event, visit the [National Afterschool Alliance website](#).

For more information about Lights On! Afterschool in Iowa, or to let the IAA know that you are planning one, please contact Michelle Rich at mrich@sppg.com, or 515-243-2000.

CEDAR RAPIDS AFTERSCHOOL ALLIANCE HOLDS MEETING

The Cedar Rapids Afterschool Alliance held its first meeting Thursday, September 13th! This regional alliance is made up of programs, parents and other supporters of afterschool programs to increase the profile of Afterschool in the Cedar Rapids area. This group plans to partner on a variety of initiatives and professional development opportunities. The group also discussed a city-wide event to raise awareness of Afterschool to the community. To learn more, or become a member, please contact Lynelle Henriksen at (319) 366-6421 ext. 102.

BECOME A MEMBER OF PROJECT 2010 AND PARTNER TO ADVOCATE FOR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Project 2010 is a national collaboration of individuals and organizations that have joined to advance universal access to afterschool programs. As Project 2010 grows in visibility and diversity, more community leaders and policy-makers will continue to make Afterschool a priority. Project 2010 provides its sign-on partners with opportunities to participate in events and forums, join rallies such as Lights On! Afterschool, connect to afterschool resources, and bring afterschool to the public's attention through meetings with decision-makers and media leaders.

You can help by signing on and showing your support for afterschool programs. Signing up for Project 2010 is an easy way to show your solidarity with afterschool policy priorities and connect to a national movement. You can make a difference by being involved both locally and nationally.

Show your support for Project 2010 by signing up as a partner at:

<http://www.afterschool2010.org/join.cfm>

GOVERNOR CULVER ANNOUNCES \$6.6 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

In collaboration with the Iowa Council on Foundations and the Iowa Department of Economic Development, Governor Chet Culver distributed over \$6.6 million to 85 community foundations across the state, with each recipient receiving approximately \$77,000. These funds are designed to encourage charitable giving in the foundation's community. 75% of the funds will be granted to charitable projects, impacting such areas as arts & culture, education, health, and the environment, and the remaining 25% placed in a permanent endowment fund intended to attract continuing donations.

CHECK AND SEE IF YOUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION RECEIVED FUNDING!

For more information and a complete list of award recipients, please see the following sites:

Iowa Department of Economic Development

<http://www.iowalifechanging.com/endowiowa>

Iowa Council of Foundations

<http://www.iowacounciloffoundations.org>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR SUMMER SERVICE PROJECTS

The Corporation for National and Community Service has a grant opportunity for organizations planning programs with a summer community service focus. The Corporation's "Summer of Service for Middle-School Aged Youth" grant has the purpose "to stimulate new or expanded service-learning opportunities in the summer programming of youth-serving organizations that already serve large numbers of youth from disadvantaged circumstances at multiple sites."

Please see [Grants.gov](#) for more information on this grant opportunity.

AS ALWAYS, THE IOWA AFTERSCHOOL ALLIANCE TEAM IS HERE FOR YOU!

The staff at the IAA is always around for advice, support, and information. The team can be reached at 515-243-2000, or bfindley@sppg.com.

To best serve the needs of the Iowa Afterschool Alliance, SPPG and IAA members collaborate on four groups that coordinate and implement IAA activities and policies.

- **Policy Work Group:**

- Develops annual policy agenda and assembles grassroots coalitions
- Identifies barriers for afterschool programs in policy and funding and works with appropriate partners to resolve them.
- Staff contact: [Brooke Findley](#) or [Erin Drinnin](#)

- **Data Work Group:**

- Determines research priorities and assists staff in analysis of existing data
- Develops research instruments and methodology
- Disseminates data about afterschool in a practical way
- Provides basic resources for programs to track outcome data
- Staff contact: [Mathew Willey](#)

- **Quality Work Group:**

- Advocates for increasing coordinated quality efforts across systems
- Identifies best practices, core competencies, and program models, as appropriate
- Creates opportunities for professional development
- Works with the Data Work Group to help programs measure quality and youth outcomes
- Staff contact: Ben Banowetz

- **Sustainability Work Group:**

- Plans for sustainability and coordinates funding to ensure the network has sufficient organizational and financial resources to perform its scope of work
- Works to build public support for quality afterschool programs
- Staff contact: [Brooke Findley](#)